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## Editorial

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## **Editorial**

The Irish Journal of Applied Social Studies was formally launched at a conference on Mental Health and Young People at Waterford Institute of Technology, in October 1998. The editor and deputy editor were present as were the president of the Irish Association of Care Workers and the Resident Managers Association. Since Volume One, University College Cork has become a partner of the journal. The journal has grown from a national to a truly international perspective. The editorial board now includes representation from England, Scotland and Europe. Volume 3 will include Canadian and American associate editors.

We are delighted with the quality and number of submissions to the journal. Eileen O' Neill's article on early childhood education is particularly welcome as she is a practitioner with many years experience in social care. O' Neill examines education as it pertains to residential social care provision in Ireland. Roland Tormey, from Mary Immaculate College in Limerick, also looks at education for what have been termed 'at risk' and 'disadvantaged' children drawing from national and international material. McGarthy and McDonagh assess education and the third level sector in Ireland. John Wells examines Irish mental health provision for children and adolescents concluding that prioritisation will become the norm in the future and Shane Dunphy presents a timely and controversial article on women who abuse their children. Paul Bailey comments on residential care provision outlining some of the problems facing practitioners in the 1990's and Damien Courtney assesses the potential direction of social care in a European context.

Volume 3 will include articles from Europe and the United States on education, social policy, children's friendship, mental health, child care and law.

\* Applied Social Studies is an emerging discipline in Ireland with a number of Universities and Institutes of Technologies now having dedicated Departments. It is the specific task of this journal to contribute to knowledge in this area.